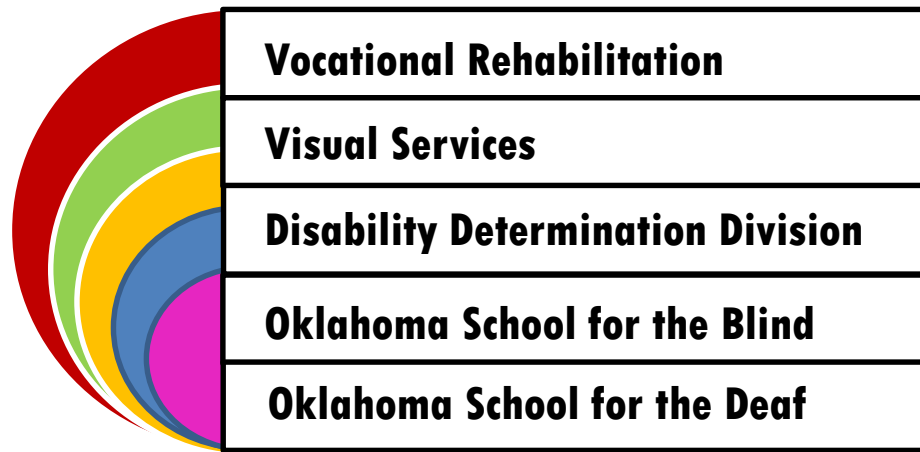


Rehabilitation Services and Employment – It's What We Do



Who We Are

DRS is comprised of five program divisions which operate dozens of programs that help Oklahomans lead more independent and productive lives.



Vocational Rehabilitation



Visual Services



Disability Determination Division



Oklahoma School for the Blind



Oklahoma School for the Deaf



Why Contact Vocational Rehabilitation or Visual Services?

- VR and VS provide services to:
 - Persons with disabilities who may have ability to pursue employment
 - Those who, due to the severity of their disability, may benefit from rehabilitation services in terms of increased participation in home or community activities

Referral Received When:

- Information is provided to agency staff regarding an individual who may need vocational rehabilitation services
- What are your agency's expectations after making a referral?



Referral From DRS:

- Information or direction is provided to an individual regarding services and resources available from other agencies or service providers
- Information and direction is provided to an individual regarding opportunities for employment
- What is your process when we send a referral? How can we help?

Referral Considered an Application When:

- An individual requests services **AND**
- We have the information necessary to initiate an assessment to determine eligibility and priority for services
- **AND** the individual is available to complete the assessment process

Preparing for the Initial Interview

- Complete the application to the best of ability
- Bring the signed medical release form with physicians listed, or
- Bring medical documentation of disability
- For Transition: IEP and educational evaluation
- For Adults: work and educational history

What to Expect at the Initial Interview

- Discuss social history
- Gather employment history
- Discuss employment goal
- Discuss outlook for that employment goal – O*NET
- Discuss barriers to employment

Who is Eligible?



- All individuals with a documented disability
 - Who have a desire to work, and
 - Who will benefit from the services we provide

From Application to eligibility, time frame is 60 days.

The Comprehensive Assessment Includes:

1. Analysis of Impediments

- Thorough analysis of the needs, limitations, and barriers
 - Impediments to employment
 - Potential barriers to employment
 - Special needs related to employment
 - Evaluation of education, work history



The Comprehensive Assessment Includes:

2. Analysis of Skills, Abilities, and Knowledge

- Thorough analysis of the positives/strengths/tools that can be used
 - Indicators for success
 - Skills and abilities
 - Education, work history, or other positives to build upon



The Comprehensive Assessment Includes:

3. Resources Available

- Job Seeker and family resources and how they may be utilized
- Comparable benefits and how they may be utilized
- Initial financial needs assessment to determine Job Seeker's participation in the cost of services

The Comprehensive Assessment Includes:

4. Justification of Goal and Services

- Description of the vocational goal
- Discussion of labor market information, such as O*NET
- Compatibility with interests, strengths, and abilities
- Services anticipated and why needed
- Discussion of all options to ensure informed choice

The Comprehensive Assessment Includes:

5. Financial Status Determination

- Family membership and size of household
- All income for family
- All allowable liabilities for the family
 - Compare the above to the Basic Living Requirement that applies to the size of the family
 - Determine the amount of job seeker's participation, if any, in the cost of services



Priority Group Assignments

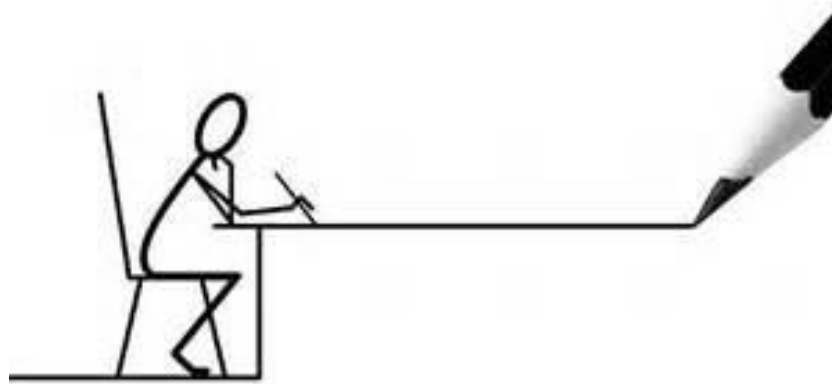
Priority Group 1. Eligible individuals with the most significant barrier to employment. A most significant barrier is one that includes a mental or physical disability resulting in serious limitations in three or more functional capacities and can be expected to require multiple services over an extended period of time

Priority Group Assignments

- **Priority Group 2.** Eligible individuals with significant barriers resulting in serious limitations in at least one, but not more than two, functional capacities and can be expected to require multiple services over an extended period of time.
- **Priority Group 3.** Eligible individuals with disabilities not meeting the definition of individual with a significant barrier.

Individualized Plan of Employment

- Completed within 60-90 days of eligibility determination
- Services may begin after the IPE is signed by the job seeker and approved by DRS



What's in a Plan?

CONFIDENTIAL FOR AGENCY USE ONLY
Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services
Individualized Plan for Employment

Participant		Participant ID	103688
Caseload	VR-429	Case ID	124199

1. General Information

Plan Number	4
Signature/Start Date	04/29/2015
Primary Staff at Start	
Expected Plan End Date	12/2018
Employment Goal	Registered Nurse

Reason for Selecting my Employment Goal

I explored options and feel this is a good choice.
It matches my interests, abilities and strengths.
The job outlook for this type of work is good.

2. Planned Services

Description	Estimated Start Date	Estimated End Date
1 Counseling and Guidance	07/2013	12/2018

Vocational counseling and guidance provided by VR counselor.

My Chosen Provider DRS

Comparable Benefits

No items selected

Outcome	Outcome Date
Description	Estimated Start Date Estimated End Date
2 College/University Training, Direct Tuition School	08/2013 05/2017

Tuition, fees, and books paid first by Pell or other free grant monies. DRS may assist after all comparable benefits and any income surplus has been exhausted.

My Chosen Provider Seminole State College/East Central University

Comparable Benefits



Goal Development

- Job seeker is a full contributor
- Based on information which includes medical, vocational and psychological evaluations
- Consistent with the comprehensive assessment
- Consistent with the job seeker's informed choice



Counselor's Role in Plan Development

- Counselors serve as facilitators of plan development in the following ways:
 - Explain rehabilitation and the VR process
 - Understand and facilitate informed choice
 - Provide information regarding rehabilitation resources and current labor market trends

Job Seeker's Role in Plan Development

This is a collaboration or team effort between job seeker and/or job seeker's family and counselor. This includes:

- The selection of the employment outcome
- VR services and service providers
- Service and employment settings and methods for procuring services

Employment Success!



DRS considers an individual to be successfully employed when they have been on the job for 90 days or more.

Post-employment Services

- Offered to Successfully Rehabilitated Individuals
 - To retain employment
 - To regain employment
 - To advance in employment only when the nature of the individual's impediment to employment makes advancement the most appropriate post-employment outcome consistent with strengths, resources, abilities...
- Any VR services, but not comprehensive VR effort

How to Contact DRS

- Go to okdrs.gov for local listings, or
- Call 1-800-487-4042